

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/030,158

Applicant(s)

AKIHiko Moteji

Examiner

Dov Popovici

Group Art Unit

2622

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 8/7/2000

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

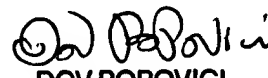
☒ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☒ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1.7.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____


DOV POPOVICI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Other _____

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Continued Prosecution Application

1. The request filed on 8/7/2000 for a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 CFR 1.53(d) based on parent Application No. 09/030,158 is acceptable and a CPA has been established. An action on the CPA follows.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Notermans et al (U.S. 4,843,571) in view of Collard et al (U.S. 5,825,988).

As to claim 1, Notermans et al discloses a network print system comprising: a computer terminal (1) having, a processor (inherently), a computer user interface (4), and a computer display (5), the processor being configured to produce a print request message in response to information provided through the

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computer user interface (4), the print request message containing image data, and the print request message not uniquely identifying a device for printing the image data; at least one printer (3) communicatively coupled to the computer terminal (1), the at least one printer (3) having a printer user interface (8) with a data input device (13) and a data display device (14); and a host computer (2 and 6) communicatively coupled to the at least one printer (3) and the computer terminal (1) and configured to receive the print request message, the host computer (2 and 6) having a memory (6) in which the image data is stored, and a host computer processor (2) configured to produce a identity code associated with the print request message and send the identity code to the computer terminal (1), wherein the computer terminal (1) being configured to display on the display (5) an indication of the identity code provided by the host computer (2 and 6), the host computer (2 and 6) being configured to recognize when the identity code is input to a particular printer of the at least one printer (3) via the printer user interface (8) to associate the particular printer with the print request message, and provide the image data to the particular printer (3) for printing. Notermans et al does not teach wherein the identity code is a job number. Collard et al teaches a network print

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system wherein stored data files are not printed until a go-ahead print command is received, wherein the go-ahead print command is a name of the data file; (see column 10, lines 30-60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Notermans et al wherein: the identity code is a job number. It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Notermans et al by the teaching of Collard et al because (1) for the reasons taught by Collard et al at column 1, lines 20-55 and (2) so that the user identity code can be the job number of the job that the user wants to print.

As to claim 2, Notermans et al does not teach wherein the identity code is a job number and a computer user interface configured to receive a password entered by a user, the processor being configured to produce a print request message containing image data and the password, the host computer having a memory in which the image data and the password are stored, a host computer processor produces a job number and stores the job number in the memory in association with the image data and password and the host processor being configured to recognize when the job number and password are input to a particular printer of the at least

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one printer via the printer user interface to associate the particular printer with the print request message and provide the image data to the particular printer for printing. Collard et al teaches a network print system wherein stored data files are not printed until a go-ahead print command is received, wherein the go-ahead print command is a name of the data file and a computer user interface configured to receive a password entered by a user, the processor being configured to produce a print request message containing image data and the password, the host computer having a memory in which the image data and the password are stored, a host computer processor produces a job number and stores the job number in the memory in association with the image data and password and the host processor being configured to recognize when the job number and password are input to a particular printer of the at least one printer via the printer user interface to associate the particular printer with the print request message and provide the image data to the particular printer for printing (see column 10, lines 30-60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Notermans et al wherein the identity code is a job number and a computer user interface configured to receive a password entered by a

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user, the processor being configured to produce a print request message containing image data and the password, the host computer having a memory in which the image data and the password are stored, a host computer processor produces a job number and stores the job number in the memory in association with the image data and password and the host processor being configured to recognize when the job number and password are input to a particular printer of the at least one printer via the printer user interface to associate the particular printer with the print request message and provide the image data to the particular printer for printing. It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Notermans et al by the teaching of Collard et al because (1) for the reasons taught by Collard et al at column 1, lines 20-55; (2) so that the user identity code can be the job number of the job that the user wants to print; (3) the password can be provided for extra security and making sure that the right user will receive his print job. As for the rest of the claimed subject matter, applicant is directed to the remarks and the discussion made in claim 1 above.

As to claim 3, Notermans et al discloses a printer memory (print queue) configured to hold a user identity code, at least

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one of the host computer (2 and 6) and the at least one printer (3) being configured to determine if an input data input through the printer user interface (8) of a particular printer of the at least one printer matches the identity code to associate the particular printer with the print request message, and if so providing the image data to the particular printer (3), the at least one printer (3) being configured to determine whether a identity code input via the printer user interface (8) matches the identity code stored in the printer memory and if so printing a document corresponding to the image data; (see column 5, lines 10-26). As for the rest of the claimed subject matter, applicant is directed to the remarks and the discussion made in claim 2 above.

As to claims 4-5, Notermans et al as modified discloses a secure method for printing a document in a network print system. The steps of claims 4-5 are similar to the network print system of claim 1, and are therefore similarly rejected.

As to claim 6, Notermans et al as modified discloses a secure method for printing a document in a network print system. The steps of claim 6 are similar to the network print system of claim 2, and is therefore similarly rejected.

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As to claim 7, Notermans et al as modified discloses a secure method for printing a document in a network print system. The steps of claim 7 are similar to the network print system of claim 3, and is therefore similarly rejected.

As to claim 8, Notermans et al as modified discloses a secure network print system. The means plus functions of claim 8 are similar to the network print system of claim 1, and is therefore similarly rejected.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 8/7/2000 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With respect to the arguments that "neither of these references disclose, teach, or suggest a method or system where a user can, as one action, issue a print request message from his terminal, and, as a second independent action, find a desirable printer of the network, cause the print request to be associated with that particular printer by inputting the print request job number at that printer, and have that particular printer execute the print request." and "Notermans does not describe a system where the print request can be executed from any printer

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connected to a host computer." and *"Collard does not describe a system where the print request can be executed from any printer connected to a host computer."*, the arguments have been considered, but they are not found to be persuasive because of the following reason(s):

(1) The arguments have been considered, but they are not found to be persuasive because they are not directed to the claimed subject matter.

(2) The claimed recitation of "a particular printer of said at least one printer" reads on printer (3) disclosed by Notermans et al, since only one printer is being claimed in the claims.

(3) Notermans et al discloses a network print system comprising: a computer terminal (1) having, a processor (inherently), a computer user interface (4), and a computer display (5), the processor being configured to produce a print request message in response to information provided through the computer user interface (4), the print request message containing image data, and the print request message not uniquely identifying a device for printing the image data; at least one printer (3) communicatively coupled to the computer terminal (1), the at least one printer (3) having a printer user interface (8) with a data input device (13) and a data display device (14); and

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a host computer (2 and 6) communicatively coupled to the at least one printer (3) and the computer terminal (1) and configured to receive the print request message, the host computer (2 and 6) having a memory (6) in which the image data is stored, and a host computer processor (2) configured to produce a identity code associated with the print request message and send the identity code to the computer terminal (1), wherein the computer terminal (1) being configured to display on the display (5) an indication of the identity code provided by the host computer (2 and 6), the host computer (2 and 6) being configured to recognize when the identity code is input to a particular printer of the at least one printer (3) via the printer user interface (8) to associate the particular printer with the print request message, and provide the image data to the particular printer (3) for printing.

Notermans et al does not teach wherein the identity code is a job number.

Collard et al teaches a network print system wherein stored data files are not printed until a go-ahead print command is received, wherein the go-ahead print command is a name of the data file; (see column 10, lines 30-60).

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Notermans et al wherein: the identity code is a job number.

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Notermans et al by the teaching of Collard et al because (1) for the reasons taught by Collard et al at column 1, lines 20-55 and (2) so that the user identity code can be the job number of the job that the user wants to print.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dov Popovici whose telephone number is (703) 305-3830.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

or faxed to:

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(703) 308-9051 (for formal communications intended for entry)

(703) 306-5406 (for informal or draft communications, such as proposed amendments to be discussed at an interview; please label such communications "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

or hand-carried to:

Crystal Park Two
2121 Crystal Drive
Arlington. VA.
Sixth Floor (Receptionist)

Dov Popovici
October 23, 2000


DOV POPOVICI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Dov Popovici
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2622